

ATTACHMENT "A"

PRESS RESPONSE WITHOUT INCIDENT

Within the past year, the Department of Defense has initiated a program directed toward improving methods of protecting sensitive information. Where practical, the Department has kept secure details as to missile firings; prohibited closeup photography of our missiles, space vehicles and supporting facilities and has not announced when important system tests are being held. The primary purpose has been to avoid giving progress details on defense systems development which, under previous procedures, made such information available to foreign intelligence agents, permitting them to make detailed weapon system analyses.

The Department has recently directed that similar procedures be applied to advanced aircraft research and development efforts which are being directed toward improved high performance aircraft and other classified defensive weapons system development programs. In accord with this policy, further details of this program are not available for public dissemination.

N.B. - The above conforms with the policy stated by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs during Congressional inquiries and contained in the Congressional Record and reported in Aviation Week.

TOP SECRET

ATTACHMENT "B"

PRESS RESPONSE TO MISHAP (UNCONTROLLED)

The aircraft which (crashed) (made a forced landing) at \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ was an experimental prototype  
being used in a Department of Defense research program. The aircraft  
was on a routine test flight at the time.

The research and flight test operations are being conducted  
under the supervision and control of the United States Air Force from  
a remote test facility located [REDACTED] Details con-  
cerning test objectives and vehicle specifications are classified.

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(The above is the maximum that would be disclosed in the event of a mishap.  
Full disclosure would depend upon the extent of mishap and exposure of  
test facilities, their location, the vehicle and other matters related to  
test objectives.)

TOP SECRET